



## NEWS RELEASE

June 9, 2010

### **U.S. AMBASSADOR CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT-ELECT AQUINO AND VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT BINAY**

On June 9, following the formal proclamation by the Philippine Congress of the President-elect and Vice President-elect, Ambassador Harry K. Thomas, Jr. made the following statement:

“On behalf of the U.S. Embassy, I congratulate President-elect Benigno S. Aquino III and Vice President-elect Jejomar C. Binay on their victories in the May 10 election. We also congratulate the people of the Philippines for carrying out a successful first-ever national automated election.

The United States has a long and deep relationship with the Philippines, a treaty ally whose soldiers have fought alongside ours in World War II and subsequent conflicts. With some 4 million Filipino-Americans living in the United States, more than 100,000 Americans residing in the Philippines, and numerous cultural and educational exchange programs between our countries, the vibrant ties between our two peoples enhance our mutual respect.

The United States and the Philippines share common values and common goals designed to make our world more secure and more prosperous. We cooperate closely on regional security, counterterrorism, and in combating transnational crime, including the scourge of trafficking in persons. Our two governments work together to open markets, protect intellectual property rights, fight corruption, and encourage economic growth and development.

We look forward to working with the new Philippine government to deepen the unwavering friendship and partnership between our two nations, and to advance our common goals for the benefit of the Southeast Asia region and the world.

Mabuhay ang Pilipinas. Mabuhay ang Amerika.”

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